tioned and some balance eligible persons remain to be covered. Additionally the Government has now decided to recognize a further 18 Border Camps for coverage under the scheme. To cover all the eligible, persons in the additional 18 Border Camps as well as the remaining eligible people in the earlier 98 Border Camps, it is now estimated that the limit for sanctions needs to be enhanced to 15,000. The additional annual financial implication of the enhanced limit is estimated to be about Rs. 24 crores.

Nexus between officers of Indian Navy and Contractors

*33. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that senior officers of Indian Navy have been found involved in pocketing money from contractors who supply shoes, uniforms, suitcases etc.;

(b) if so, what is the number of officers found involved in those cases during the last three years and what action has been taken against them; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that suppliers who bribed the officers, referred to above are still doing business with the Armed Forces and if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b)Atotal of six officers were found to be involved. Of these, five officers have been tried by Courts Martial and punished. Case of one officer is under investigation.

(c) Cases of all categories of suppliers involved in giving bribes are under consideration for suitable action including black-listing, if necessary.

Impact of import of Cheap Soda Ash

*34. DR.A.K. PATEL:

PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that import of cheap soda ash from